

were stupid, but I didn't realize they were absolutely, positively asinine. This headline says in the World-Herald dated February 1, 1981, Council retains unconstitutional law. The subtitle is, "In this city the city fathers feel it is illegal to prowl and loiter." What they are talking about can be gleaned from the first paragraph of the article which I'll read. "Although its attorneys repeatedly warned against the move, the Omaha City Council has decided to retain a law against loitering that a federal court in 1987 ruled unconstitutional." Now listen to Steve Tomasek, the leader of the nincompoops. "Councilman Steve Tomasek was the most vocal. 'I appreciate that the Supreme Court has ruled but I violently disagree,' Tomasek said. 'In this city the city fathers feel it is illegal to prowl and loiter.' He was joined by councilpersons Joe Friend, Subby Anzaldo, Richard Takechi and Steve Exon." Now what this fool is saying is that the court, having made a direct declaration based on the requirements of the U.S. Constitution should be disregarded. So they are going to send a message to the courts by retaining an unconstitutional provision that has been ruled so by the courts. It was not, by the way, the Supreme Court that made the ruling, it was the Eighth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. So this individual, Tomasek, does not even understand the factual setting in which this occurred. It was a ruling by the Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. I'm going to read you a little bit more. "Omaha attorney, Robert Broom, who fought the city in a suit that led to the 1987 court ruling, said Thursday, that the council was foolish to keep the ordinance on the books. The council is simply off the wall in terms of its assessment of the law, Broom said. Councilmen are playing with taxpayers' money by leaving the city exposed to potential legal damage." Now here is Tomasek again. I don't know if the three stooges were still alive, whether or not they would let him be the fourth, or if the Marx brothers, Groucho, Harpo and Zeppo were around they would let him turn the three-wheeled cart into a four-wheeled thing, but he would fit with one caveat. The three stooges and the Marx brothers played like jackasses on purpose. They really were not that, they were acting. Tomasek is as serious as a heart attack. He is not playing and here is what he said, talking about Tomasek from the article. He said, "The court ruling was made by people that don't fully understand the problems we in cities have dealing with the streets." Tomasek said he objects to putting a broad interpretation on the rights of an individual. The rights of society should always supersede the individual's rights. Is this America? Was this man raised in Fascist Italy or Nazi